Hike in Diesel Price

374.SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of diesel have been increased recently; if so, to what extent and the net effective increase from State to State:

(b) how far it has resulted in pushing up transport cost of goods and passengers; and

(c) the steps, if any, taken to minimise the hardship of consumers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY): (a) The ex-storage point price of diesel has been increased effective 6th October, 1999 from Rs. 6882.1 S/Kilolitre to Rs. 9634.60/Kilolitre. The net increase in the retail selling prices varies from State to State depending on freight, local taxes and other levies. A statement indicating the effective increase in different States is enclosed. *(See* below)

(b) and (c) Under the provisions of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, State Governments have been vested with the power to fix fares and freight. Besides, transportation of goods by road is mainly in the private sector where market determines the cost of transportation. The price of diesel is fixed on the basis of import parity. The impact of rise/fall in international price of diesel is accordingly passed on to consumer. Since September, 1997, the prices of diesel were revised on ten occasions including six downward revisions.

Statement

Increase in different Slates in respect of hike in diesel price

RSP of HSD in	States			
		As on 05.10.99 (Rs./Litre)	As on 06.10.99 (Rs./Litre)	Increase (Rs./Litre)
1	2	3	4	5
Andhra Pradesh	Sikandrabad	15.57	11.72	3.85
Arunachal Pradesh	Itanagar	12.45	9.25	3.20
Assam	Guwahati ~	14.59	10.81	3.78
Bihar	Patna	14.64	10.89	3.75 -
Chandigarh	Chandigarh	13.86	10.23	3.63
Delhi	Delhi	13.91	10.35	3.56

1	2	3	4	5
Goa	Panjim	15.42	11.40	4.02
Gujarat	Ahmedabad	15.50	11.48	4.02
Himachal Pradesh	Shimla	13.73	10.18	3.55
Jammu & Kashmir	Srinagar	15.08	11.30	3.78
Karnataka	Bangalore	16.16	12.05	4.11
Kerala	Trivandrum	16.09	11.94	4.15
Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	15.88	11.90	3.98
Maharashtra	Mumbai	16.54	12.23	4.31
Meghalaya	Shillong	13.45	9.99	3.46
Manipur	Imphal	13.31	9.88	3.43
Mizoram	Aizwal	13.06	9.70	3.36
Nagaland	Kohima	14.41	10.70	3.71
Orissa	Bhubaneshwar	15.41	11.53	3.88
Pondicherry	Pondicherry	14.59	10.69	3.90
Rajasthan	Jaipur	14.89	11.11	3.78
Tamil Nadu	Madras	15.24	11.27	3.97
Tripura	Agartala	13.13	9.75	3.38
Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow	15.18	11.33	3.85
West Bengal	Calcutta	14.20	10.52	3.68

Price revision also includes the impact of increase in state surcharge rates, FDZ charges and delivery charges beyond FDZ.

Cess on Crude

†375. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI BARJINDER SINGH HAMDARD:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that cess is still recovered on crude oil at the rate of Rs. 900 per tonne;

(b) if so, the date on which this cess was imposed on crude oil together with the purpose thereof;

(c) whether Government have separately maintained account of the expenditure incurred from the money collected through this cess; and

†Original notice of the Question wai received in Hindi.